



*We are a body of believers  
located in northern Harris County  
called by the Holy Spirit and  
transformed by the Gospel to glorify and enjoy God  
as we proclaim the Good News of salvation through Jesus Christ.*

Sunday, December 18, 2022

## Celebration of God in Corporate Worship

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC *Brooke Lewis*

PRELUDE *Janice Bradshaw*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Pastor Ben*

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE *Rusty & Tracy Allen*

PREPARATION TO WORSHIP *Brooke Lewis*

*Please take a moment to silently prepare to worship,  
and reflect on Isaiah 9:2,*

*“The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shone.”*

✦CALL TO WORSHIP *Pastor Ben*  
*from Zechariah 9*

Leader: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!

People: Behold, your king is coming to you;  
**righteousness and bringing salvation is he.**

Leader: His rule shall be from sea to sea,  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

All: **How great is his goodness, and how great his beauty!**

✦PRAYER OF ADORATION *Pastor Ben*

✦SONGS OF ADORATION *Congregation*

***Go, Tell It on the Mountain***

(Spiritual; arr. Work, Galbraith, Lawrence)

***Angels We Have Heard on High*** (Hymn #214)

(Traditional French carol)

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*Worship begins  
where spiritual  
life begins - with  
God's call.  
Appropriately,  
we respond with  
prayers and  
songs of  
adoration.*

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*“Give me  
understanding  
that I may keep  
your law and  
observe it with  
my whole heart.”  
Psalm 119:34*

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✦Please stand if able

**DECLARATION OF GOD'S LAW**

*Ruling Elder Ian Achterkirch*

*Ephesians 5:8-9*

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true).

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

*Ian Achterkirch*

Leader: Almighty God, you have saved us from the darkness and have brought us into the light of your Son, and have called us to walk as children of light.

**People: Jesus is the light of the world, and in him we are light. Yet our fickle hearts continue to gravitate toward darkness.**

Leader: Father, sanctify us by your Spirit that we might increasingly bear the fruit of light, to the glory of your Name.  
Lord, hear now our silent prayers of personal confession and forgive us for the sake of Jesus...  
*silent confession of personal sin*

...amen.

**PRONOUNCEMENT OF GOD'S GOSPEL**

*Ian Achterkirch*

*Isaiah 40:10-11*

Behold, the Lord God comes with might,  
and his arm rules for him;  
behold, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense before him.  
He will tend his flock like a shepherd;  
he will gather the lambs in his arms;  
he will carry them in his bosom,  
and gently lead those that are with young.

**PRAYER FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH AND THE WORLD**

*Ian Achterkirch*

*concluding with the Lord's Prayer*

**✦SONG OF THANKSGIVING**

*Congregation*

***Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*** (Hymn #203)  
(Wesley, Mendelssohn-Bartholdy)

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*God's law reveals God's righteous requirement. We confess our failure to keep God's law, and joyfully receive the good news of what God has done for us in Christ.*

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*"Let your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, your salvation according to your promise."*  
Psalm 119:41

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*We are called to  
be faithful  
stewards of  
God's Word.  
Therefore, we  
eagerly and  
unashamedly  
read and  
proclaim the  
whole counsel of  
Scripture.*

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*Having received  
God's blessing,  
we depart  
blessing the  
name of the  
Lord.*

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**DIACONAL PRAYER**

*Deacon Bill Dietz*

**OFFERTORY**

***Emmanuel Has Come***

*Children's Choir*

(Alex Trygstad)

*You came from heaven's glory, you came down from your throne.  
You came to share your story and make your riches known.  
You came to bring salvation, forgiveness from our sins.  
Jesus Christ has come to us, Emmanuel has come!*

*The angel in his tidings spoke of the Savior's birth.  
The chorus in their singing proclaimed God's peace on earth.  
They sang of glory unto God, we join them in song.  
Jesus Christ has come to us, Emmanuel has come!*

*The baby in the manger asleep upon the hay  
Was born to be the Savior and take our guilt away.  
He calls us to turn from our sin, to trust him and believe.  
Jesus Christ has come to us, Emmanuel has come!*

*The hands once small and tender now hang upon a tree.  
He died and rose in splendor to set his people free.  
In glory he will come for us, our risen conquering King!  
Jesus Christ will come for us, Emmanuel will come!*

**✦ SONG OF PRAISE**

***The Doxology*** (Hymn #731)  
(Ken, Bourgeois)

*Congregation*

**BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN**

*Pastor Ben*

*After the blessing you are welcome to send your children ages 4-8 to Children's Worship  
or they may remain with you. Children will be returned to the Sanctuary after the sermon.*

**SCRIPTURE TEXT**

Matthew 2:13-23

*Pastor Ben*

**SERMON**

*To Egypt and Back*

*Pastor Ben*

**✦ SONG OF RESPONSE**

***It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*** (Hymn #200, vs. 1, 3, and 4)  
(Sears, Willis)

*Congregation*

**✦ BENEDICTION**

*Pastor Ben*

**✦ SONG OF BLESSING**

***Gloria Patri*** (Hymn #735)  
(Traditional 2nd century text, Greatorex)

*Congregation*

**POSTLUDE**

*Brooke Lewis*

# **Sermon Notes**

December 18, 2022

# **To Egypt and Back**

Matthew 2:13-23

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## Announcements

<b>Monday, December 19</b> Session Meeting Pastor's Office	7:00pm
<b>Tuesday, December 20</b> Men's Bible Study Room 118 CODA Meeting Youth Building	7:00pm 7:30pm
<b>Wednesday, December 21</b> Choir Rehearsal Sanctuary	6:30pm
<b>Thursday, December 22</b>	
<b>Friday, December 23</b>	
<b>Saturday, December 24</b> Christmas Eve Service Sanctuary	6:30pm
<b>Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day!</b> Worship Sanctuary & Live Stream	9:30am

**Christmas Dinner Fellowship Meal**  
**TODAY** after Sunday School, Fellowship Hall  
 Join us for a Christmas feast following Sunday School!

**Christmas Eve Service**  
**Saturday, December 24, 6:00 pm, Sanctuary**  
 Bring your family and join us for a relaxed and intimate candlelight service.

**Christmas Day Worship**  
**Sunday, December 25, 9:30 am**  
**Sanctuary & Live Stream**  
 There will be no nursery for our Christmas Day worship service. All family members are welcome to worship together!

### **Year-End Giving**

As you plan your year-end giving, prayerfully consider the ministry needs of our church and your covenant tithe. Although giving has been very strong throughout 2022 our year-end giving total will determine our budget for next year so please give generously. All contributions must be **received or postmarked no later than December 31, 2022**. If you would like a year-to-date statement before the end of the year, email Robin, [robin@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:robin@springcypresschurch.com).

### **Informational Presentation on SCPC's Summer Mission Trip**

**Sunday, January 8, 11:00 am, Sanctuary**  
**Contact: Justin, [justin@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:justin@springcypresschurch.com)**  
 Adults and youth will meet together to hear about plans for a summer mission trip to support Aaron & Rachel Halbert, PCA Missions to the World missionaries in Honduras.

# Prayer

## **Pray for Our Church**

*Diaconate* - Pray for our deacons as they fulfill their calling to care for the many and varied physical needs of our church and congregation.

## **Pray for Our Congregation**

*Jakob Basham* - PRAISE - surgery went well!

*Carl Gregory* - healing from possible pneumonia.

*Jeff Kuhn* - PRAISE - surgery went well; pray for his recovery and complete healing.

*Scott Thibaut* - PRAISE - middle ear surgery went well; pray for complete healing.

Ongoing health concerns: *René & Clairice Chapelle, Carl & Rose Gregory, Rick & Jeanne Maddy,*

*Katie Medeiros, Mark Morrow, Jim & Mary Spiritosanto.*

## **Pray for Our Military and First Responders**

*Peter Achterkirch*, Army, Washington

*Joshua Duncan*, Army, Georgia

*Christian Cory*, Army, New York

*Shawn Maya*, Spring Fire Department

*Chris Dietz*, Navy Reserves, Texas

*Jessy Wykes*, Army, Europe

## **Pray for Our College Students**

*Charlotte Achterkirch*, Samford University

*Jenna Haaland*, Samford University

*Claire Achterkirch*, Samford University

*Rebekah Kooiman*, Abilene Christian University

*Zach Allan*, Tarleton State University

*Ayden Steagall*, Lone Star College

*Rebekah Duncan*, Montana State University

*AJ Tousha*, Lone Star College

*Austin Gatlin*, Louisiana State University

*Izzy Tousha*, Lone Star College

*Justin Gatlin*, Louisiana State University

## **Pray for Our Expectant Mothers**

*Theresa Adams* is due in February.

*Christine Harris* is due in March.

*Kathryn Ritchie* is due in April.

*Laurie Byerly* is due in June.

## **Pray for Our Family & Friends**

Amy Haaland's father *Gary Boldt* - pray for his recovery from a serious illness.

Jim & Mary Spiritosanto's daughter *Rebecca* - pray that her body will not reject the new kidney she received on December 1.

*Greg Hagerman* - pray for health struggles and financial concerns.

Heather Burch's sister *Kerri* - PRAISE - surgery went well; pray for pain management and complete healing.

Charles Zapp's 95-year-old mother *Jackie* - peace and comfort as she moves to critical care hospice in Harlingen.

## **Prayer for Our SCPC Missions Team**

- Passion for foreign and domestic Gospel mission
- Wisdom regarding potential new partners and support/funding of strategic projects for current partners
- That the Lord would bring new, excited team members in 2023; faithfulness to care for our current missionary partners
- Continue to pray for our missionaries and missions partners!



# Advent at SCPC Sundays

## First Sunday of Advent Denim Sunday



## Second Sunday of Advent Classy Christmas Colors



## Third Sunday of Advent Ugly Sweater Sunday







## Fourth Sunday of Advent—TODAY! Flannel Sunday

December 18th

*Soft flannel, plaid flannel, solid-colored flannel - be warm and comfy in your flannel on the 4th Sunday of Advent!*

# Special Events



## Christmas Fellowship Meal

Sunday, December 18th after Sunday School

*Join us TODAY for a Christmas Dinner!*

# Christmas Eve Service

December 24th

6:00pm



*Bring your family and join us for a relaxed and intimate service.*



6000 Spring Cypress Rd, Spring, TX 77379 · 281-320-3650 · [springcypresschurch.com](http://springcypresschurch.com)

## General Information

### To our visitors:

Welcome, we're so glad you're here today!

- Stop by the Visitor's Center in the Narthex for a free gift!
- Please complete a connect/prayer card if you want us to be in touch, and so we know how we can pray for you.
- If you do not have a Bible of your own, please take one of the pew Bibles home with you today.

To learn more about us and our ministries, visit our website, [springcypresschurch.com](http://springcypresschurch.com)

To see how our church participates in the global cause for Christ, check out the touch-screen monitor in the Narthex

Like and follow us on Facebook:

*Spring Cypress Church*

Restrooms are located in the Narthex.

### Parents of Young Children:

- Nursery is available in the Children's Wing for children 4 years and younger.
- A cry room, located on the piano side of the sanctuary, is available for parents with young children.
- Children ages 4-8 are welcome to go to Children's Worship prior to the sermon, and they are returned to the Sanctuary near the end of the service. On Communion Sundays (first of each month), children will remain with their families so that they regularly participate in corporate worship with our entire church family!

### Giving at SCPC:

We present our offerings as an act of worship, expressing our thankfulness for God's provision, our trust for God to meet all our needs, and our desire to be used of God for the furtherance of His kingdom on earth.

You may place your gift in the offering plate, mail a check to the church office, or give online at [springcypresschurch.com/give](http://springcypresschurch.com/give).

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## Our Church Leadership & Staff

### Elders

Ian Achterkirch  
Justin Chandler  
Erik Haaland

Tim Kooiman  
Danny McDaniel

The elders may be reached at:  
[session@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:session@springcypresschurch.com)

### Deacons

Jakob Basham  
Kyle Bodden  
Bill Dietz  
David Farmer

David Jones  
Stephen Kovach  
Scott Lewis  
Bob Pickard

The deacons may be reached at:  
[deacons@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:deacons@springcypresschurch.com)

### Staff

Rev. Ben Duncan, Senior Pastor  
[ben@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:ben@springcypresschurch.com)

Robin Trygstad, Office Administrator  
[robin@springcypresschurch.com](mailto:robin@springcypresschurch.com)

*If you've lost or misplaced an item, please check with the office.  
Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9am-3pm*

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